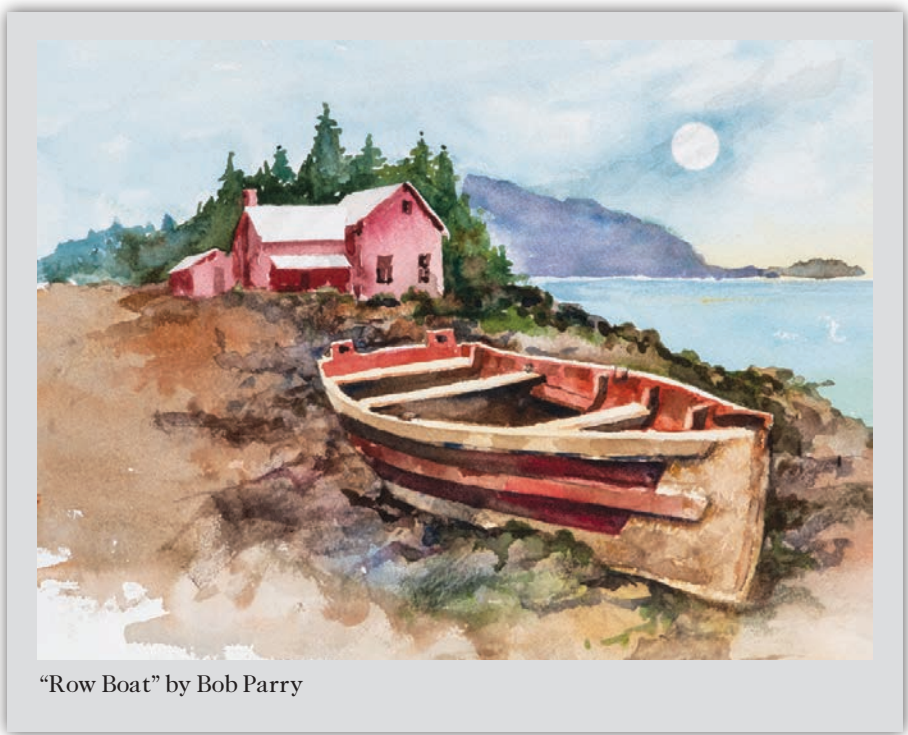


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# THE ROCKPORT Observer

FAIRVIEW PARK & ROCKY RIVER COMMUNITIES | VOL 02, ISSUE 4 | OCTOBER 2014



“Row Boat” by Bob Parry

## Aquarelle Art Show at Fireside Room Gallery

By Robert Parry

The West Shore Aquarelle Watercolor Society is displaying an art show from September 20 through October 24 in the Fireside Gallery at the West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church located at 20401 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River.

The Society’s show consists of 39 original watercolor paintings by 11 artists: Linda Borton, Al Buchta, Phyllis Firalio, Barbara Hall, Thomas Hemsath, Howard Hoehn, Annabelle Keller, Bob

Parry, Barbara Swasey, Jenne Vetrone and William Wilder, MD. Most of the paintings in the show are for sale. The Gallery is open most weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. when the Fireside Room is not scheduled for meetings. Please call the Gallery at 440-333-2255 for times when viewing is available.

The Aquarelle Watercolor Society was organized in 1996 with six watercolor artists from the West Shore area. Today

See Aquarelle page 2

## Use It or Lose It!

By Conda Boyd

Anyone who watches election returns knows that we Americans take our right to vote for granted. But just how fragile is that right?

Are you a white male landowner who’s over 21 years old? When the United States was founded, that’s what it took to vote in most states. By the Civil War, most states had removed the wealth requirement, but you still had to be male, white and, in most states, 21.

Are you a naturalized citizen? You couldn’t have voted until the 14th Amendment to the Constitution was passed in 1868.

Is your skin dark? The 15th Amendment, passed in 1870, provided that voting rights could not be abridged based on race, color or previous condition of servitude.

Are you a woman? You couldn’t have voted until 1920, when the 19th Amendment was passed. Thank the brave suffragettes who marched by the thousands, suffering derision and assaults. Some even went to jail,

conducted hunger strikes and were force-fed.

Ever live in Washington, D.C.? You couldn’t have voted in presidential elections until 1961, when the 23rd Amendment was passed.

In 1964, the 24th Amendment prohibited poll taxes, which had been used to disenfranchise blacks and poor people in the South, taking us back to the wealthy, white and over-21 scenario that our country started with.

Are you between 18 and 21? You got the right to vote in 1971, when the 26th Amendment was passed because Vietnam-era draftees stood up and cried, “If we’re old enough to die, we’re old enough to vote.”

Since the day our country was born, patriots have fought inch by precious inch to secure your right to vote – and to win it back whenever new rules have restricted it. This fight is alive and well in Ohio, where voters’ rights activists are challenging new limits on early voting.

September is Voter Registration Month, and September 23 was National

See Use It page 2

## Why Pass a Tax Increase?

By Invest in River Committee

We are facing an important decision in our community and will soon be making a choice about our future.

Our country and community is slowly recovering from the deepest recession in more than 50 years. This fact, along with other financial impacts such as the significant reductions in state funding, means that we now face the reality of needing additional dollars to maintain the current level of city services – services that residents deeply value and the City is proud to provide.

As a result, a proposed 0.5% increase in our municipal income tax has been placed on the November ballot. This only comes after the City has cut its budget by more than 27% since 2008.

Our Frequently Asked Questions lays out the details of the tax increase and associated credit. It is important to note that the additional funds generated by the increase, estimated at \$2.3 million, can only be used for capital projects and equipment purchases.

The additional revenue is key to future investment in roads, bridges, sewers, public facilities, parks and equipment – all necessary to keep Rocky River a strong, thriving, desirable community that is responsive to the needs of its residents.

A hardworking and dedicated campaign committee, Invest in River,

is leading the effort to achieve resident approval of this critical issue. It is our hope and request that we can count on your support, because without broad-based community support we will not succeed in strengthening Rocky River’s future.

**What Is Issue 80?**

- Income Tax increase of 0.5% will be used **ONLY** for capital investments, including streets, sewers, parks, equipment, etc.
- This income tax is a “where you work” tax. The increase primarily affects those who work in Rocky River.
- Increase will generate \$2.3 million for critical city infrastructure projects.
- City General Fund expenditures have been cut by nearly \$7 million (27%) since 2008.
- The last City tax increase was in 1977.
- Your vote counts and your voice is critically important to the passage of Issue 80.

Please take time to endorse the campaign by visiting our Endorsements page at [www.investriver.com](http://www.investriver.com). Should you have any questions on the ballot issue or the Invest in River campaign, please do not hesitate to contact us. •

*The Invest in River Committee is co-chaired by Fred DeGrandis and Gloria Hardington. Mayor Pam Bobst is a member of the committee.*



### Magnificat Salutes its National Merit Scholarship Students

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation has named two Magnificat High School seniors as National Merit Semifinalists in the 2015 Merit Scholarship Competition, and four as Commended students. Students are chosen on the basis of high scores on the Preliminary SAT (PSAT). The Semifinalists represent less than 1% of high school seniors nationwide, while the Commended students are among the top 5% of high scorers on the PSAT test.

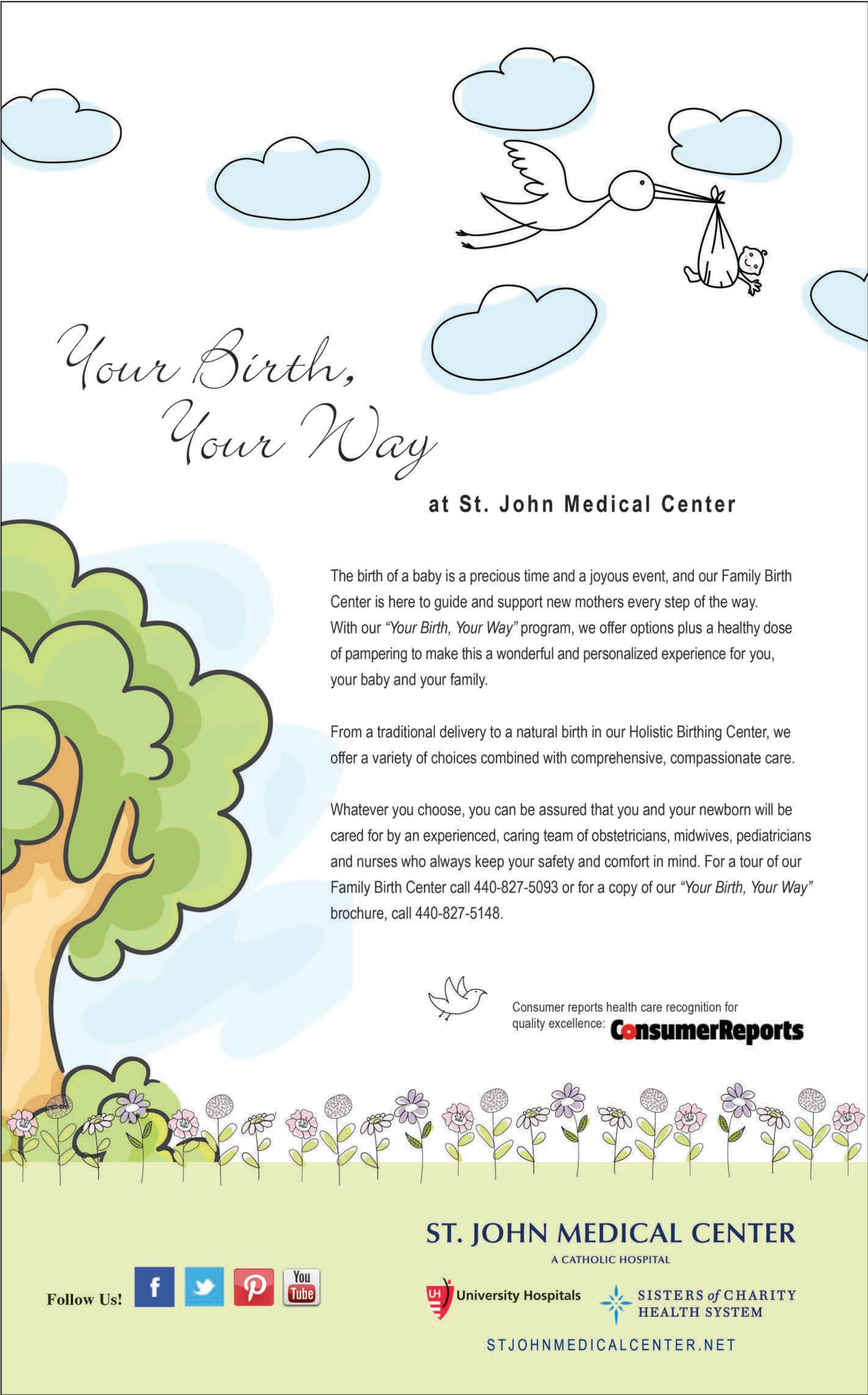
The Magnificat students receiving these honors include Semifinalists Caitrin Campbell and Alexandra Norris (seated in photo), and Commended students Elizabeth Leszcz, Hanleigh Heinzmann, Caitlyn Harrington and Megan Hricovec.

Congratulations, Blue Streaks! •










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# Teammates Critical to Entrepreneurial Success

By Perry Haan

Part of becoming a successful entrepreneur is knowing when and how to choose professionals to assist in the starting and running of a business. This month's column will discuss issues related to choosing an accountant. The November column will examine the process of working with an attorney.

Every business is required by the IRS to keep accurate records of revenues and expenses for proper annual tax filings. Some entrepreneurs start by doing their own accounting. The availability of user-friendly software programs like QuickBooks, Quicken, and Microsoft Office Small Business Accounting makes it possible for business owners to do some work on their own—assuming they understand enough about accounting and taxes. Entrepreneurs then take the results to a tax preparer to have their returns completed.

Many business owners either do not know enough or do not want to spend the time to learn enough to do their own accounting. Even those that can successfully be their own accountants at the start of a business often want to hire someone as the business grows. Owners tend to become immersed in other aspects of making the business a success.

### What to Look For

The range of options for hiring an accounting firm can be overwhelming. There is everything from new sole

practitioners to large international firms. While bigger firms may provide more services, be aware that large firms sometimes contract out work to smaller accounting firms. It is important to ask who will be handling an account.

According to Robert Gray, owner of Robert H. Gray, CPA, Inc., in Westlake, one of the first things an entrepreneur should ask about is the accountant's philosophy. "Entrepreneurs need ongoing services. They need to find someone with whom they are comfortable. We want you to call us with your questions, so we can act as a trusted advisor."

A non-certified accountant may be what is needed to handle financial statements, analysis, and bookkeeping. However, when it comes to tax advice and return preparation, business owners usually look to accountants who are certified and licensed. A Certified Public Accountant (CPA) has an undergraduate degree and has met the exam and experience requirements for state certification. CPAs must take continuing education courses to remain certified and licensed.

Entrepreneurs should ask what types of services an accounting firm offers and who is actually doing the work. Gray stated that it's also worth knowing how long the accountant has been certified and in business. Gray has been in the business for 30 years. He also said it is important to ask, "How proactive is the accountant in providing planning services and explaining the financial statements?"

Entrepreneurs should also ask what types of clients the accountant has. For example, how many start-ups does the accounting firm work with. Accounting for newer entities can be somewhat different than that for established businesses. Other business owners, local chambers of commerce, the Internet, and the local chapter of the Association of CPAs in Columbus can all help in locating potential accountants for a new business.

It is imperative that business owners take the time to interview firms and individual candidates. Check experience in your industry, your size of company, and software sophistication. While working with an accountant with clients in your industry might seem like the ideal, Gray says that it is not mandatory. "There are enough similarities in businesses that most CPAs can work in a variety of industries." The important thing is that the entrepreneur feels comfortable with the accountant.

Gray said that he does not get asked about his backup plan for his customers. "If I cannot return to work for some reason, what is the plan for taking care of my clients?" This is a crucial but often overlooked query.

### Off the Hook?

Of course, the business owner should also check references. Hiring an accountant is a critical decision and adequate due diligence must be done beforehand.

An accountant, however, does not get



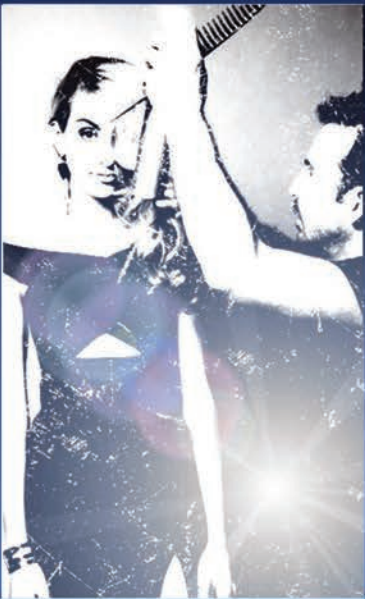
Dr. Perry Haan

the business owner off the hook in terms of accounting knowledge. Entrepreneurs need to be able to input day-to-day information into the chart of accounts in the accounting software. The accountant will use this data to prepare financial statements and tax returns. Many firms such as Gray's provide training in this area.

More important, the entrepreneur must understand the reports generated by the accountant. The accountant provides information to help the entrepreneur make decisions—but is not responsible for the owner's decisions. •

*Dr. Perry Haan is Professor of Marketing and Entrepreneurship and former Dean of the Business School at Tiffin University. He resides in Rocky River and can be reached at 419-618-2867 or haanpc@tiffin.edu.*

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LOCAL BUSINESS & EVENTS

Business Expo Returns on October 9

By Liz Manning

The Rocky River Chamber of Commerce presents its 12th annual Business Expo on Thursday, October 9, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 21016 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River. You are invited to attend and meet the business people who have products and services that are right here in our own backyard. Admission is free when you present your business card.

This year's Business Expo, the only business show of its size and scope in the area, will feature over 100 exhibitors, including 13 restaurants. It presents exhibiting businesses with a unique opportunity to stand out in today's competitive business world. Attendance is expected to top 1,000 again this year, as people take this opportunity to make connections and learn how new products, services and technology can help their businesses grow.

Returning this year to the Expo will be a wine and beer tasting from 4:00 p.m. to



7:00 p.m. Local retailers WineStyles and Giant Eagle will be selling a variety of fine wine and beer samples.

Jason Lukz, Co-chairman of the Expo Committee, offers just a few of the reasons why the Expo is a valuable business investment.

"This is an exciting event, it's a powerful five hours filled with high energy. Expo 2014 will feature a wide variety of exhibitors. It gives people a means to network, to increase business

opportunities and to obtain ideas on ways to increase business. We see many successful connections made at the Business Expo. You never know who you might meet."

"This is the 12th Expo that the Rocky River Chamber of Commerce has produced. The attendance and feedback received gets better every year," Lukz said.

Valet parking is available for \$5 per car. Free offsite parking is available at

St. Thomas Lutheran Church at 21211 Detroit Road in Rocky River. A shuttle bus will run between the Civic Center and the St. Thomas parking lot. All exhibitors and attendees who use the shuttle will be entered into a raffle to win valuable prizes.

Expo's Platinum sponsor is Cox Business. Gold sponsors are Tri-C, Timan Custom Window Treatments, Speedpro Imaging, WestLife, Silver sponsors include Aable Rents, Admiral Products, Cleveland Clinic Hospitals, Dollar Bank, Dawson Companies, First Federal Lakewood, Giant Eagle, Huntington Bank, Inside Business, Lutheran West High School, MVP Services, Normandy Senior Living, Northeast Ohio Media Group, Paychex, Rockport Observer, Spooner Inc., Westwood Town Center.

For more information, call the Rocky River Chamber at 440-331-1140 or visit [www.rrexpo.com](http://www.rrexpo.com).

Liz Manning is Executive Director, Rocky River Chamber of Commerce.

"The best way to predict your future is to create it."  
--Peter F. Drucker

"Wonderfully enjoyable! Smart, funny, and tuneful" - Daily News

[title of show]  
oct 10 - nov 16  
studio theater

music and lyrics by jeff bowen      book by hunter bell  
directed by scott spence  
musical direction by larry goodpaster

[title of show] is presented through special arrangement with R & H Theatricals: [www.rnh.com](http://www.rnh.com).

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LOCAL BUSINESS & EVENTS

“Holidays Go Miniature” in Miniaturia Society’s Show

By Joyce Waltz-Umerley

My love of miniatures began as a child one Christmas morning, when I awoke to find that Santa had brought me a dollhouse. It was the most magical gift a little girl could have dreamed of owning.

I was recovering from pneumonia and confined to my bed. During the night, my parents placed the dollhouse next to my bed, not under the Christmas tree. Can you imagine my delight and surprise when I opened my eyes Christmas morning? My father told me he helped Santa build it. I never questioned it, but in later years, I learned my father had been secretly building it at night, after I fell asleep.

My dollhouse was no palace, but my paper dolls preferred it to the shoe box they had formerly called home. It’s front and back doors did not open; there were no inside doors, baseboards or window trim. One bedroom did not have a door, which really bothered me. my paper dolls had to jump into space to get from one room to another, so I would pretend a real door existed. Regardless, I was awed, as all little girls should be by their father’s skill.

There was no furniture in the dollhouse, and so I clipped pictures of furniture from magazines and pasted them onto the walls. Many happy hours were spent on my stomach, re-creating my life and troubles, dressing and



“Christmas Morning” Roombox by Joyce Waltz-Umerley will be on exhibit on October 11.

redressing my paper dolls, pretending and getting lost in my daydreams.

As I grew, my interests changed. My dollhouse was moved to the attic and forgotten. However, through several moves, homes, marriages, children and grandchildren, my dollhouse always went with me, resting in the attic. Each time I opened my dollhouse, the scent from the plywood walls reminded me of a comforting childhood treasure that had brought me so much joy.

In 2004, I retired, resurrected my dollhouse from the attic, and joined the Cleveland Miniaturia Society. Ten years later, the restoration of my dollhouse is almost finished. In honor of my father’s memory, there is a miniature photo of him and myself on the table next to the bed. The master bedroom now has a door!

If you, too, would like to discover the hobby of miniatures and be enchanted by the world of miniatures, come to Cleveland Miniaturia Society’s 43rd

annual show on October 11 at the Don Umerley Civic Center, 2116 Hilliard Blvd. in Rocky River from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The 2014 theme is “Holidays Go Miniature.” My dollhouse will not be on display, but I will be exhibiting a vintage Christmas roombox, titled “Christmas Morning,” and a Halloween scene titled “Witches’ Brew Coffee Shoppe.”

Although the club exhibit includes well-known holidays, there will be some ‘wacky’ national holidays you’ve probably never heard about, such as “International Respect for Chickens’ Day”, “Bubble Bath Day”, “National Shoe Week”, “Homemade Bread Day”, and more!

Come and have a good chuckle at “Holidays Go Miniature”. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children, and free for ages 5 and under. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Cleveland Animal Protective League. There will also be a raffle for two dollhouses, food, and door prize drawings. Dealers from several states will be offering their miniature wares for sale. For more information, go to [www.clevelandminiaturiasociety.org](http://www.clevelandminiaturiasociety.org) or call (440) 449-3038. •

Joyce Waltz-Umerley is the Founding Director of Rocky River Senior Center, City of Rocky River, retired in 2004. She was chosen Rocky River Woman of the Year 2002 by the Rocky River League of Women Voters.

“The smells of Christmas are the smells of childhood...” — Richard Paul Evans, *The Christmas Box*

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**COMMUNITY WORKS** **Artist as Social Agent**

Image: Ben Kinsley

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Fall semester, the series includes a national conference for academic, curatorial and independent scholars ([cia.edu/conference](http://cia.edu/conference)); and an exhibition by international artists exploring multi-layered narratives of identity, exile, and displacement.

Visit [cia.edu/communityworks](http://cia.edu/communityworks)

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Community Works is made possible by support from The George Gund Foundation, the Cleveland Foundation, the Danish Arts Council, the Council of Independent Colleges, and the Murphy Family Foundation.

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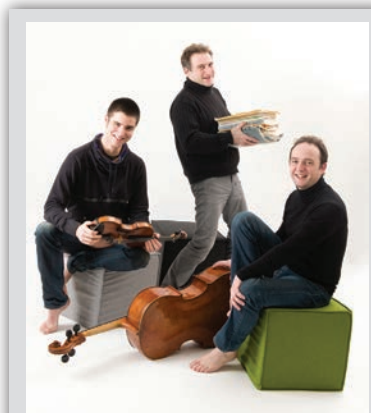
LOCAL BUSINESS & EVENTS

Chamber Music Society's 56th Season Begins

By Carol Jacobs

The Rocky River Chamber Music Society is pleased to announce its 56th season of presenting high-quality professional chamber music concerts for the Northeast Ohio community. Concerts take place at 7:30 p.m. on Monday evenings in the outstanding acoustical environment of the West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church. In addition to its five evening concerts, the Society presents its second children's concert on Sunday, December 7 at 2:30 p.m. This performance will feature stories and music from Cleveland's West Side, composed and conducted by former Lakewoodite Max Mueller.

The first concert, on October 6, features pianists Thomas Labé and Hyunsoon Whang performing music for "one piano, 4 hands." Not only are they an acclaimed piano duo, they are also a married couple. Both are scholars and professors in the Department of Music at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. Both have performed on national and international stages, including Carnegie Hall in New York City, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, and the Aspen Music Festival. These artists have made numerous



Austria's Vienna Piano Trio will perform in March as part of the Rocky River Chamber Music Society's 2014-2015 season.

recordings. Mr. Labé is a voting member of The Recording Academy which manages the nomination and voting process for the Grammy Awards. The October 6 concert contains music that will be familiar to many, beginning with Schubert's beautiful Fantasie in F minor and ending with Dukas' rousing Sorcerer's Apprentice.

All performances are open to everyone and have no admission charge. Our concerts showcase an interesting mix of international, national, and local talent. For more information, call 440-333-4296, or visit [www.rrcms.org](http://www.rrcms.org).

2014 – 2015 Season	
October 6	Thomas Labé and Hyunsoon Whang, Piano 4 Hands
December 7	Children's Concert composed and conducted by Max Mueller
January 26	"Men Who Don't Bite" (Bassoon Quartet and Friends)
March 9	The Vienna Piano Trio (piano, cello, and violin)
April 20	Mozart's opera <i>La Finta Giardiniera</i> in concert performance with students from Baldwin Wallace Conservatory
May 18	Robert Vernon (Principal Viola, The Cleveland Orchestra) & Friends



Rocky River Public Library presents:

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# Beautify Your Home...

## Revitalization in Upholstery Industry

By Lindsey Covach

Fabric Showcase, established in 1974, specializes in furniture reupholstery. General Manager Andrew Bodjanac, a third-generation upholsterer, grew up around furniture. I had the pleasure of sitting down with Mr. Bodjanac to discuss the business.

“Growing up in my dad’s shop, an upholsterer was the last thing I wanted to be,” says Andrew. “Working directly with clients and seeing the transformation of an old piece of furniture into something beautiful opened my eyes to the beauty of the trade.”

**Q: Is it more expensive to reupholster?**

**Bodjanac:** It depends on your budget and standards of quality. Typically, your older furniture was made with much higher standards than the furniture you find at big-box furniture stores. There was a time when companies manufactured well-made furniture with coiled springs, quality foam, and hardwood frames; it’s very rare to find a sofa with that quality foundation at a discounted price.

**Q: Why reupholster?**

**Bodjanac:** Most of my clients choose reupholstery because they have a piece

of furniture that fits their space well; the style suits them and they want to customize the piece. Having a custom piece of furniture with a fabric of your choosing creates a piece of your own that only you have.

**Q: What sets Fabric Showcase apart from the rest?**

**Bodjanac:** Our quality and attention to detail is paramount, but our customer service is what sets us apart. We offer complimentary in-home consultations where we quote the project and present the customer with a wide variety of fabric samples. We are a “one-stop shop,” offering free pick-up and delivery, wood refinishing and caning services.

**Q: What does Fabric Showcase offer the Cleveland area?**

**Bodjanac:** We acquired Fabric Showcase in 2006. Then, the recession hit and it didn’t discriminate! I think everyone went through a tough time, but we stayed true to our values and knew that if we made it through the recession, we could be successful. Since 2010, we have seen at least a 20% increase in sales each year and, personally, it feels great to be a part of a revitalized industry that’s seeing a resurgence. More people need to realize the potential this city has! •

## Framing from the Heart

By Amy Baumberger

This morning a large envelope was in my mail. Not expecting anything of size, I looked at it wondering what could be inside, and then I noticed a return address sticker from my favorite aunt. Inside was a gift she’d received from friends who had just returned from four months of traveling. It was a print from a Chinese antique store.

My aunt enclosed a note explaining where the print was from and where she’d like to hang it. Since we hadn’t spoken for a while, I called her to say hello and to let her know I had received the print. After catching up, we got onto the subject of the print. She gushed about her surprise that her friends thought of her while they were away and carried her gift all the way from China (on a motorcycle, no less) and how beautiful it was.

At first, my aunt placed the print on a table for a few weeks thinking she had no room to hang it. One day she noticed a spot in her kitchen where she thought it might fit. After holding it up to the wall, she instantly grew excited about having it framed as a daily reminder of her friends and their friendship.

These are the framing projects I love the most. Those pieces with a story. Those that I know will bring happiness to my clients. Store-bought prints and other art can also beautify a room, but there is nothing like walking by a picture with a great memory every day. A funny greeting card, a ticket stub or a collection of trinkets can all evoke these warm feelings. And they can all be framed for display in your home, too!

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*Amy Baumberger is the owner of The Frame Artist, located in Rocky River.*



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# Inside and Out



## The Ritzy Chic Supports All Cancer Survivors

By Debbie Simone

October is breast cancer awareness month. But at The Ritzy Chic it doesn't matter what month it is...or what kind of cancer you have...THEY ALL MATTER. The Ritzy Chic continually supports and celebrates cancer survivors. We donate a portion of our proceeds to a beneficiary each month. If you are interested in being one of these beneficiaries, please stop in and fill out a survivors application.

We accept some donations to resell (but very selectively). We decide if an item should be sold in the shop, online or at our warehouse on the East Side. In the event we do not have a certain beneficiary, we pick someone that we find who needs the help and support.

In October, The Ritzy Chic is planning a different sale and promotion every week. As a special thanks to our customers for their continuing support, we will be handing out a customer appreciation card that entitles them to 10% off any item in the shop, including sale items. You must have this card and only one purchase per day will be permitted. In the first week, October 1 through 5, our sale will be all nearly-new clothing at 75% off (vintage clothing and accessories excluded). From this sale, we will donate 100% proceeds to our beneficiary of the month.

We have a large selection of vintage and costume jewelry, vintage clothing, furniture (new and antique), home furnishings, glassware, pictures, paintings, and much more. Please visit our shop during our new fall/winter hours: Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 5pm and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Ritzy Chic is located at 1315 Linda Street, Rocky River, and our phone is 440-331-5200. Visit our web sites at [www.theritzychic.com](http://www.theritzychic.com).

Our Estate Liquidators site is [www.mentorfleamarket.com](http://www.mentorfleamarket.com) (for downsizing, de-clutter, estate sales, house staging). Our animal support site is [www.justpaws4acause.com](http://www.justpaws4acause.com). The Just Paws 4 A Cause site supports animals with cancer and those that are sick and abused. Items on our sites can be purchased online (small items can be shipped, otherwise pick up only at either a East or West Side locations). For more information, feel free to call and leave a message on my cell, 440-382-6789 or warehouse number, 440-942-2669. •

*Debbie Simone is the owner of The Ritzy Chic.*



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HEALTH

Wellness Doc  
Defeating Arthritis Pain and Suffering

By Bryan Ruocco

Arthritis pain and suffering is a serious epidemic that affects millions of Americans. It's a condition that affects more than 46 million U.S. adults - and the number is expected to increase to 67 million by 2030. No matter the type, the pain can be debilitating and affect an individual's overall function, preventing them from doing the things in life they enjoy most.

There are many different forms of arthritis. The two major types of arthritis are osteoarthritis, which is the "wear-and-tear" type of arthritis, and rheumatoid arthritis, an inflammatory arthritis that happens when the body's immune system does not work properly. Gout - caused by crystals that collect in the joints - is another type of arthritis that can be extremely painful. Psoriatic arthritis, lupus, and septic arthritis are other types. All in all, any type of arthritis can cause pain and suffering.

The question behind all types of arthritis that we need to ask is WHY? Why do joints become inflamed? For all those who suffer with arthritis, it is important to understand why this occurs. Much false information leads us to believe arthritis is an aging process that can't be stopped: Once you are inflicted, you are doomed for the rest of your life. I

do not agree as I have seen many people defeat arthritis pain naturally.

Once you understand arthritis, you may look at it differently and explore others options available to you, outside of medication. Let's first breakdown the term "arthritis". "Arth" means joint and "itis" means inflammation. Simply put, you have joints that are inflamed. Any inflamed joint will cause pain.

What we really need to understand is the WHY? The problem we have today is that arthritis is associated with...yes, you guessed right...AGE! If you accept arthritis as an aging process, then you are accepting the pain and problem for the rest of your life. What you really need ask is why are my joints inflamed?

An Aging Problem?

Over the last 10 years in practice, I've evaluated over thousands of x-rays. I have found that the age in which we are seeing arthritis is getting younger. Let's discuss arthritis as the aging problem some would have us believe. Here is an example related to a 65-year-old female with osteoarthritis. I look at the x-rays of her lower back and see that the patient has osteoarthritis in her spine, which is characterized by disc degeneration and bonesspurs. However, out of the five bones in her lower spine, the degeneration is seen only in the lower two bones.

Clinically, this woman complains of stiffness, lower back pain and difficulty walking. Her doctor has told her she has arthritis in her lower back. My question is if only two of the five bones in the spine are affected, is it truly an aging problem? How old are the other three bones that show no signs of arthritis? That's right, they are the same age.

If this were an aging problem, all the bones of her spine would be affected. We can apply the same logic to someone who has arthritis in only one knee or hip. Yes, it may very well be joint inflammation (arthritis). But if you have it in only one knee and think it is an aging problem, have you ever thought about how old your other knee is.

We are seeing more joint replacements take place than ever before in history. More people are taking anti-inflammatory drugs and pain meds for arthritis type pains than ever before. Drugs cover up symptoms and do not address the problem causing the inflammation. On a side note, chronic use of NSAIDs may impair liver and kidney function as well. We need to take a deeper look into this epidemic and understand the problem and not just the pain.

I would like to invite you to our upcoming workshop on arthritis and share with you the true causes of this debilitating condition and the



Dr. Bryan Ruocco

simple drugless steps you can take to control the pain and inflammation. Once you understand what is fueling the inflammation, your pain and inflammation will become a thing of the past. Come join us and learn how to defeat arthritis pain naturally. Seating is limited to 25 participants. The workshop will be held at Panera Bread in Rocky River on October 22 at 7:15 p.m. Call our office at 440-331-4744 to register. •

Dr. Bryan Ruocco is a local chiropractor and wellness advocate. He owns and operates the Power of LIFE Wellness Center located in Rocky River. Dr. Ruocco graduated from the Life Chiropractic College in Marietta, GA. He graduated in the top of his class and received Magna Cum Laude Honors.

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"The Center for Family Medicine at Fairview Hospital specializes in primary care for infants, children, teens, adults and older adults. In some cases, we're providing care to multiple generations of the same family," said Fred Jorgensen, MD, Medical Director, Center for Family Medicine.

CFM physicians focus on primary and preventive care, and residents provide care under the direct supervision of board-certified faculty physicians. Their patients can access the comprehensive inpatient, testing and lab services of Fairview Hospital. CFM physicians can also assist with referrals for specialty care when needed and behavioral health is integrated into the care provided at CFM.

According to Dr. Jorgensen, the importance of routine, preventive care cannot be overemphasized. "It's best to identify and treat minor health concerns before they become major problems. The Center for Family Medicine can be an efficient and cost-effective option in the management of chronic conditions for you and your family."

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HEALTH

# Cleveland Clinic to Launch Initiative in West Park

By Angela Smith

Cleveland Clinic's Fairview Hospital has teamed up with the City of Cleveland and several community partners to offer a new wellness program called "Be Well West Park." The program will kick off an adult wellness challenge at the West Park YMCA on Wednesday, October 1, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The event's launch, part of Cleveland Clinic's Healthy Community Initiative (HCI), will feature Healthy Heart screenings, flu shots and a starter kit with a pedometer and wellness journal - all of which are designed to help West Park residents maintain healthy lifestyles. The YMCA will provide free exercise and fitness classes during this event.

"Improving the health of our community is a top priority for us and we are proud to work together with our community partners to bring this new wellness program to West Park," says Neil Smith, DO, president of Fairview Hospital.

"Be Well West Park" will run eight weeks and includes education on health and wellness related topics, a walking program and pre- and post-program health screenings. The cost to participate is \$10 with all proceeds benefiting programs at the YMCA. Prizes will be awarded to the top three registrants, based on participation in walks, exercise opportunities, screenings, and improvement in health numbers (\$250 first prize; \$150 second prize; and \$100 third prize).

This wellness challenge is a collaborative program between Cleveland Clinic's Office of Community Outreach and several community partners, including Councilman Marty Keane, Cleveland City Council - Ward 17; Commander Thomas McCartney, Cleveland Police - First District; Kamm's Corners Development Corporation; West Park YMCA; The West Park Historical Society; HCR ManorCare; Key Bank; and Walgreens. Both Councilman Keane and Commander McCartney will be participating in the challenge.

"Be Well West Park" was created as a result of the Community Health Needs Assessment and will combine resources within the West Park community to target education, nutrition and physical activity.

The West Park YMCA is located at 15501 Lorain Avenue in Cleveland. To register, call 216-941-5410 or visit [bit.ly/1vNzTxL](http://bit.ly/1vNzTxL).



Dr. Sunita Matthew, Dan Karchmer, Dr. Thomas Sferra, and Dr. Jessica Philpott enjoying the gala.

## NCH's Gala Raises over \$145,000

By Elizabeth O'Brien

More than 300 people turned out for North Coast Health's annual Celebration of Caring gala in late August 28 at LaCentre in Westlake. Over \$145,000 was raised through the event, which represents 10% of the organization's operating budget and will be used to continue the life-saving care that NCH provides to the medically underserved.

"We are touched by the faithful support we have received through this event," says NCH Executive Director Lee Elmore. "Despite the many changes transforming our nation's health care system, the need for our services continues. With the financial help of our community, we are able to continue to see those who need us most."

At the event, awards were given to the following individuals and organizations for their work in helping the medically underserved to access care.


**Community Champion Award:** Theodore E. Wymyslo, MD, FAAFP  
**Partner Award:** The Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation  
**Hahn/Hoeffler/Sanders Memorial Award for Outstanding Medical Volunteers:** Victor Strimbu, MD  
**Angel Volunteer Award:** Mary Warren

With the support of volunteer physicians, nurses and other caregivers, NCH is a patient-centered medical home that provides preventive care and chronic disease management as well as care for acute illnesses and injuries. For more information, visit [www.northcoasthealth.org](http://www.northcoasthealth.org).

*Elizabeth O'Brien is a North Coast Health Ministry Development Associate.*

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1:45 Dean Kebble & Bob Ritter: Piano Show

**SATURDAY PROGRAMS**  
10:00 Sharon Morton: History of Quilting She will also answer questions regarding your quilt.  
1:00 Dan Ruminski: Millionaires Row Talk. For details see add on left.

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GOVERNMENT

# The Roles of the County Executive and Council

By Jack Schron

This year, for only the second time in the 200 years of Cuyahoga County, voters will elect a County Executive and half of the members of the County Council.

Some people know that acting upon the decision of voters, we have changed our form of government to a Charter with a County Council and County Executive. Others might think we still have three County commissioners. Even those who are aware of the Charter may ask, “What are the roles of the County Executive and the County Council? What do they do? Why should I care?”

As someone who has been part of the new Charter government for the past four years and who is currently running for the position of County Executive, I will try to answer these questions.

### The New Charter

Our new County Charter is clear that the County Executive, like the CEO of a corporation, is to be the chief executive officer of the county. The Council’s responsibilities are to pass legislation, to be the taxing authority, and to provide advice and consent to the Executive on the names brought forth for cabinet appointments.

Basically, with the exception of the duties of the new County Council, the Prosecutor and the County Judicial system, the Executive’s duties and responsibilities - which used to be under the old County commissions - now reside in the County Executive. The operations of the county and the work of county personnel (with the exception of the areas listed above) are the responsibility of the County Executive.



Jack Schron

All of the former elected positions in the county have been eliminated and changed to officers appointed by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the county, who report directly to the executive. The other big change in the new Charter is the stated commitment to “improve the County’s economic competitiveness.”

The positions of Council, as written in the Charter, were seen as part-time. I can say that although the job has taken much time during the initial start-up period, I do support what the Charter drafters’ desire for these positions to be part-time. These first four years have taken a great deal of time, just as anything new requires, with many committee meetings and hearings to gather the information needed to try to get it right.

Part of this additional time was necessary because this brand-new form of government consists of so many new responsibilities that we needed to take on. The \$1.3 billion budget - second in

size only to the budget of the entire State of Ohio - requires careful consideration in order to do a good job.

I became a member of the Council Finance Committee because I wanted to bring my experience managing budgets as the CEO of a manufacturing company to the task of better understanding the county budget and to putting forth policies that will succeed for future Councils. It was important that we invested the time in these first four years to deal with essential issues, such as ensuring financial reserves for both the Operating Budget and the Health and Human Services Budget.

You can think of the County Executive like the President of the U.S. or the Governor of Ohio, with cabinets reporting directly to them. Like the CEO of a corporation, the County Executive must bring the leadership for the nearly 7,000 employees to follow. Under the old county government, this direct leadership role was shared by three commissions and delegated to hired staff members. Today the Executive reports directly to the people of Cuyahoga County and stands for election every four years.

### The County Team

The Executive builds a management team by bringing together qualified individuals, subject to confirmation by the Council and the county’s officers and directors, to carry out all the functions of county government. The Fiscal Officer, Medical Examiner, Clerk of Courts, Director of Public Works, Director of Laws, County Treasurer and the Sheriff combined with the Director of Health and Human Services, and the Director of

Development make up the cabinet.

The duties formerly done by the auditor and recorders are now part of the Fiscal Officer’s job and include the boards and commissions. The Director of Public Works picks up the former roles of county engineer and county sanitary engineer. Although no longer elected, the other officers and their roles are similar to those under the old system.

Another major area of responsibility for the County Executive is Health and Human Services. The appointment of the Director and the Department as a whole, are both under the direction of the Executive. The Department administers all programs and activities for which the County has or has assumed responsibility: the protection and enhancement of the health, education and well-being of County residents. As important as the other functions are, the Department of Health and Human Services must be done especially well because it touches so many lives in such vital ways.

### Focus on Jobs

The Charter has an elevated focus on economic development. Quoting from the Charter: “The County shall have as a primary responsibility the promotion and enhancement of the economic well-being and prosperity of the County and all of its residents.” To achieve this, the Charter calls for 1. *focused, effective and accountable leadership*, and states that 2. *Job creation and economic growth is a fundamental government purpose, thereby helping the County do a better job of creating and retaining jobs.*

continued on page 15

## Report on Westshore Council of Governments Meeting of September 10

By LWV observers Susan Murnane (Bay Village) and Nikki Salupo (Fairview Park)

*Highlights of this month’s WCOG meeting are presented here. For the full LWV observer report, see The Rockport Observer’s website or LWVGreaterCleveland.org. Official minutes are prepared by Mayor Patton’s office and are available on Fairview Park’s website.*

Guest, Cuyahoga County Director of Regional Collaboration Jennifer Scofield

In June, Ms. Scofield replaced Ed Jerse, who retired in December. She does not manage the county’s various shared services, but rather is charged with facilitating utilization of shared services.

Ms. Scofield provided a handout listing shared services currently offered by Cuyahoga County. Most of the services are in public safety and justice, such as the MARCS radios that WCOG communities obtained through the county, joint training opportunities, facilitating jail and fire service regionalization, and the REDSS (Regional Enterprise Data Sharing System). Other shared services include public works such as sewer, road, and bridge maintenance; operations training and some service provisions for human resources; IT training and

maintenance; grant writing assistance; and regional geographical information services (GIS). Mr. Dave Greenspan (District 1 Representative, Cuyahoga County Council) presented a summary of the services used by each of the WCOG municipalities.

### County Council Update

Mr. Greenspan said that the county is considering demolition grants for blighted property that would be independent of the Land Bank but contain incentives to use the Land Bank. As envisioned, the grants would be in the form of interest-free loans to the municipalities. These loans would be repaid by dedicating half of the increase in property taxes on the demolished properties for the term of the loan. Any balance remaining at the end of the term would be forgiven. Only a small number of properties in the WCOG municipalities would be eligible for the grants.

### NOACA

Lakewood has a permanent seat on NOACA, and Mayor Summers reported that the reorganization presents a challenge for Cuyahoga County. All the other counties routinely send all eligible voting members and vote in a block, but Cuyahoga County has been

very fragmented and has done a poor job of defending its interests. For example, Cuyahoga County rated 87 out of 88 counties in license fees that are returned to the county. Mayor Summers expressed the conviction that the most important initiative of the next county executive would be to spearhead a cohesive caucus in NOACA to defend Cuyahoga County’s interests.

### New Business

The mayors began a discussion about exploring utilization of alternative fuels. Mayor Clough reported that RTA had announced that the next fleet would use alternative fuels. Mayor Summers reported that Clean Fuels Ohio could provide grant funding for a shared alternative fuel depot. Possibly a shared alternative fuel depot could also be opened to the public as an additional source of financial support.

*The Westshore Council of Governments was founded in 1971 “to foster cooperation between municipalities in all areas of municipal service.” All meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be October 8, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., in the Fairview Park Gemini Center’s Birch Room. •*

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GOVERNMENT

October Is Voter Education Month

By Conda Boyd

If you have the right to vote, you also have the responsibility to research. A listing of voter education resources and links compiled by LWV - Greater Cleveland is available below.

**Your Registration, Ballot, and Polling Place:** See the upper left corner of <http://www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us> to verify your registration, find your polling place, view your ballot, request a vote by mail application, track your ballot, register to vote, and update your address.

**Vote by Mail:** If you request a Vote by Mail ballot, please use it. If you go to the polls instead, you will have to cast a provisional ballot.

**Voter Guides:** Links are available here: <http://lwvgreatercleveland.org/observer-reports/voter-guides-forum-video/>

- Forums and Debates:**
- **Ohio Governor and Lieutenant Governor:** no forum is scheduled.
  - **Ohio Auditor of State candidates Bridges, Carney, and Yost debated at the City Club:** <https://www.cityclub.org/events/ohio-auditor-of-state-debate>
  - **Ohio House District 16 (Baker vs. LeVeck) and Cuyahoga County Council District 1 (Greenspan vs. Szabo)** candidates met for an LWV forum at Westlake's Porter Library. Video will be available at: <http://lwvgreatercleveland.org/forum-video/>
  - **US House of Representatives District 16 candidates** Pete Crossland and Jim Renacci debated at the City Club: <https://www.cityclub.org/events/ohio-s-district-16-congressional-debate>
  - **9/29 - Cuyahoga County Executive candidates** Budish and Schron will debate at noon. Originally scheduled for the City Club, the event has been moved to the Renaissance Hotel to open up more space. After the event, the video will be available here: <https://www.cityclub.org/events/cuyahoga-county-executive-debate>
  - **10/1 - Ohio Attorney General** - David Pepper, the Democratic candidate, will explain his platform and qualifications to the City Club at noon. (The incumbent is not participating.) <https://www.cityclub.org/events/ohio-s-attorney-general-forum>
  - **10/6 - US House of Representatives District 9 candidates** Kaptur and May will debate at the City Club at noon. <https://www.cityclub.org/events/ohio-s-district-9-congressional-debate>
  - **10/15 - Cuyahoga County Executive candidates** Budish and Schron will meet for a forum at Kulas Musical Arts Building, Baldwin Wallace, 96 Front Street, Berea on October 15 at 7pm.
  - **10/28 - Ohio Secretary of State** - Nina Turner, the Democratic candidate, will explain her platform and qualifications to the City Club at noon. (The incumbent is not participating.) <https://www.cityclub.org/events/ohio-s-secretary-of-state-forum>

LWVGC President Maryann Barnes has written a letter to the editor about the disturbing trend of incumbent candidates skipping public forums and debates: [http://blog.cleveland.com/letters/2014/09/public\\_debates\\_letter\\_to\\_the\\_e.html](http://blog.cleveland.com/letters/2014/09/public_debates_letter_to_the_e.html)

- Issues:**
- **List:** [http://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf\\_boe/en-US/2014/04Nov2014Issues.pdf](http://boe.cuyahogacounty.us/pdf_boe/en-US/2014/04Nov2014Issues.pdf)
  - **Guide:** <http://lwvgreatercleveland.org/observer-reports/voter-guides-forum-video/>

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The only requirement for membership is a passion for democracy. Please join us! <http://lwvgreatercleveland.org>*

You Have a Choice!

By Todd LeVeck

A Letter from Todd LeVeck, Democratic Candidate for State House District 16 Representative

When this race began in the spring, many voters had never heard of me. I've never held an elected office; my life experience has been raising my family, serving my country, teaching kids, and paying my bills. But I've also been paying attention to what goes on in Columbus. What I see is that there are many representatives in the Ohio General Assembly who seem to be most interested in taking care of special interests, raising campaign contributions, and furthering

their own political careers. I am running for State Representative because I feel that we need a representative who will support our public schools, local governments, seniors, and middle-class families.

Our legislators and our current representative have continued to advance an agenda that benefits the well-connected and the wealthy at the expense of workers, seniors, and the middle class. For example, in the most recent budget, we saw the elimination of the Homestead Exemption for many of our seniors, massive cuts to our schools and local government funds, and an increase in the sales tax. Meanwhile,

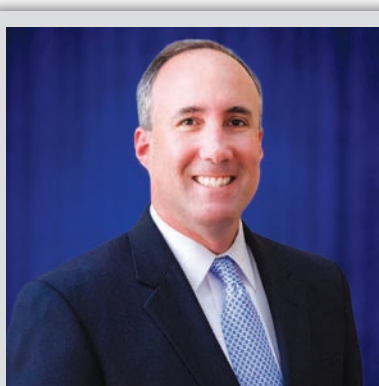
I Want to Earn Your Vote, Again

By Dave Greenspan

January 1, 2011 was the day in which a voter supported referendum designed to transform our government from a three member Board of County Commissioner structure to a County Executive and Council form of representation went into effect. I am honored to serve you on our inaugural County Council.

This was not the first time that I was elected to serve on an inaugural legislative body. In 2005, I was elected to serve on the first City Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia. This experience - more importantly, the related experience of forming a new governmental structure - has proven invaluable as we forge forward in Cuyahoga County. This experience coupled with my professional executive background has afforded me the tools necessary to effectively represent this district and county.

It's my belief that an elected official should be well-rounded and present legislation that crosses multiple areas of interest to the residents of our county. I am proud to report that I have done just that. I have sponsored legislation in the



Dave Greenspan

areas of ethics and transparency, finance and budget, veteran's affairs, public works and community engagement, just to name a few.

It's my hope that my record and my commitment to the residents of this district and county will be recognized by the voters in District 1 and that you will return me to continue to work on your behalf.

I want to earn your vote, again, on November 4.

Thank you for your continued support. •

*Dave Greenspan is a Cuyahoga County Council member for District 1.*

Transforming Ohio - It's All About Jobs!

By Nan Baker

Thank you to *The Rockport Observer* for giving me the opportunity to share some of the exciting work we've accomplished in this 130th General Assembly. I am serving my sixth year at the Ohio House as your District 16 State Representative representing Bay Village, Fairview Park, North Olmsted, Rocky River and Westlake. I currently chair the Economic Development and Regulatory Reform Committee and serve on the Ways and Means and Labor and Commerce Committees.

In 2011, we were faced with balancing a budget with an \$8 billion deficit. Our budget is now balanced and we enacted pro-job legislation, making us now a much stronger, productive Ohio. During those very difficult times, balancing our state budget had to be our highest priority. We asked every state agency to tighten their budgets as our taxpayers and businesses had already done. Increasing taxes on our struggling Ohioans was not an option.

Now, in 2014, Ohio is successfully emerging from one of the most pivotal



Nan Baker

economic periods in history. I am proud to say that over 250,000 new private sector jobs have been created since January 2011 (we lost nearly 400,000 jobs prior to 2011). According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, Ohio is again a national leader in job creation: #1 in job creation in the Midwest since January 2013 and #7 in the nation in job creation in the past year.

Our focus in the next General Assembly is to reinforce our workforce training initiatives. •

*Nan Baker represents the 16th District in the Ohio House of Representatives.*



Todd LeVeck

Ohio's economy continues to stall, as we led the nation in jobs lost in July. It's time for a change.

As soon as the snow melted, we began canvassing and making calls in the district. By Election Day, we will have knocked on over 10,000 doors and made over 20,000 phone calls to voters in the district. Our message has been well-received at the doors, and I believe that voters in our district are ready for a new direction. I am excited about the opportunity to bring a fresh perspective and the voice of workers, homeowners, and middle-class families to Columbus. •

*Todd LeVeck, Candidate for State House District 16 Representative*



SCHOOLS & LIBRARIES



Jodi Penwell and John Hosek recently joined the Rocky River Public Library Board of Trustees.

New Trustees Appointed to RRPL Board

By Kitty Sommers

Jodi Penwell has been appointed by the Rocky River Board of Education to a seven-year term on the Rocky River Public Library board of trustees. She takes over the position vacated by William Henson, who retired from the board after 14 years of service. In addition, John Hosek was also sworn in at the library's August 27th board meeting to fill the unexpired term of Betsy Lanzen. Hosek's term ends in June 2018.

Penwell is a Senior Vice President at KeyBank and manager for Non-Profit Services. She is a graduate of Cleveland State University with a B.A. in Psychology and is a Certified Trust and Financial Advisor.

As a graduate of Leadership Lorain County, she brings a vast knowledge of surrounding communities and their resources to share with the board. Before moving to Rocky River in 2013, she served on the Lorain Public Library System's board of trustees for 12 years. She was also a founding member of the Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System.

"I believe that a strong library is a cornerstone of a solid community and, as a community, we must provide governance to facilitate a lifelong learning philosophy and enhance the quality of life for the city," she said. "I believe my prior library board experience will add value to achieve this greater good."

New trustee John Hosek serves on the City of Rocky River's Planning Commission, shares his time as a

mentor for College Now, volunteers for RESULTS - a nonprofit that works to end poverty, and functions as the chair of St. Christopher Church's Social Concerns Committee. He has lived in Rocky River with his wife, Sharon, for 23 years.

He was the Director of Transportation Programs for the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency, until his retirement in 2011. Hosek holds a master's degree from Case Western Reserve University in managerial and business economics. He was the recipient of Cleveland State University's Leadership Academy Alumni Award for Outstanding Administrative Leadership.

"I wanted to be on the board because I am a firm believer in lifelong education and the mission of modern public libraries to provide not only education, but also recreation and culture," said Hosek. "My wife Sharon and I have visited the library often over the years to take out books, DVDs, music and movies. Libraries have served us well, and I wanted to provide some small service back."

*Rocky River Public Library, an independent library supported by the residents of Rocky River, is an informational, educational, recreational, and cultural resource for the community. The library's services include over 180,000 items available for loan or use in the library, a full range of online services and educational programs.*

*Kitty Sommers is Director of Marketing at Rocky River Public Library.*

Library's Popular Chef's Secrets Series Continues to Entice!

By Kitty Sommers

Want to learn some Chef's Secrets? Rocky River Public Library presents "Mouth-watering Moussaka" with Chef Taki, owner of Taki's Greek Kitchen, on October 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Find out what makes his restaurant so special and why it won *Cleveland Magazine's* Silver Spoon award for Best Greek Restaurant. Once this skillful chef teaches you how to make this Greek favorite, you'll be serving it at every opportunity. Come to enjoy flavorful samples and leave with recipe handouts.



Chef Taki, owner of Taki's Greek Kitchen

FAIRVIEW PARK BRANCH LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Adult Events

**October 2 at 7:00 p.m.** Join us for **Meditation for the Aging Mind.** Jennifer Nance, a certified dementia care professional, will explain and demonstrate how meditation can reverse memory loss and help you retain your memory. Registration required.

**October 13 at 7:00 p.m.** Historian Paul Goebbel shares his paranormal stories of Civil War locations in his presentation **Ghost Stories of the Civil War.** Explore the events that changed the history of the Civil War. Registration required.

**October 14 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Job seekers of different ages, experience and skills are competing for the same jobs. Join a Career Counselor for a workshop on **The New Workforce: Where Do I Fit In?**, which will help you understand how the four distinct and different generations in the workforce today define work, hold differing values, and have distinguishing characteristics and assets. Learn how these differences help job seekers understand and communicate to become better colleagues, managers or coworkers. Registration required.

**October 14 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Blues musician **Wallace Coleman** says that the simplicity of the blues is the hardest part. Coleman relays the story of his life through his music. Coleman left his Tennessee home for Cleveland,

discovered by Robert Lockwood, Jr., traveled the world with Lockwood's band and then toured solo. Sponsored by The Friends of the Fairview Park Branch Library. Registration required.

Teen Happenings

**October 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** The Teen Department will present **Teen Writing Workshop: Generate Great Ideas.** Whether you have great ideas or feel at a loss, learn great story ideas from acclaimed local author Rachele Alpine who will lead this two-hour writing workshop. You'll leave with prompts, exercises, tips and many new writing ideas! Copies of Ms. Alpine's book "Canary" will be available for purchase and signing. Teens in grades 6-12 welcome. Registration required.

**October 6 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Join us for **Teen Book Discussion.** Discover new teen books, enjoy some snacks and share your thoughts. We'll discuss "Hole in My Life" by Jack Gantos. Books and permission forms will be available at the Library one month before the program. Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Fairview Park Branch Library. Grades 6-12 welcome. Registration required.

**To register, call the Fairview Park Branch Library at 440-333-4700 or visit [www.cuyahogalibrary.org](http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org).**



Fall Open House and More at Magnificat

By Karen Uthe

Magnificat High School has many events planned this fall, including its annual Open House and Night-in-Blue weekend. All events are open to the public. Magnificat is located at 20770 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River. For more information about any of these happenings, please call 440-331-1572 or visit [www.magnificaths.org](http://www.magnificaths.org).

• Annual Fall Open House

Sunday, October 19, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This event is open to all prospective students and their parents—both public and private school students are encouraged to attend. Take a guided tour with a current student, meet our teachers and coaches, talk to our students, observe classroom demonstrations and enjoy observing rehearsals by our performing arts students. Refreshments will be served.

• Shadow Visits

Now through December 5 during the school day

For those 8th graders interested in attending Magnificat, we encourage you to come for a visit! Daily Shadow Visits are going on now and can be scheduled until December 5 by visiting our website at [www.magnificaths.org/admissions](http://www.magnificaths.org/admissions).

• Scholarship/Placement Exam and Parent Information Fair

Saturday, October 25 or November 15, from 8:30 a.m. to Noon

The Scholarship Placement Exam is for current 8th grade girls in both public and private schools. The test fee is \$20, and you need to bring two #2 pencils and dress comfortably. The test being administered is the Scholastic High School Placement Test (HSPT). Sign up at [www.magnificaths.org/admissions](http://www.magnificaths.org/admissions).

A Parent Information Fair will be held concurrently with the Scholarship Placement Exam in The Magnificat Center for the Performing Arts from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Parents will learn about all aspects of school life, including academics, tuition assistance and scholarship programs, transportation, athletics and co-curriculars. Refreshments will be served.

• Magnificat's 57th Annual Night-in-Blue Bazaar and Pasta Dinner

Saturday, November 8, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. & Sunday, November 9, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Take the night off from cooking and enjoy the best pasta dinner in town. This long-standing tradition sponsored by the Fathers' and Mothers' Clubs, celebrates a homecoming of students, alumnae, families, friends and present and former teachers. From the delicious pasta dinner to the carnival games, Night-in-Blue has something for everyone!

*Karen Uthe is Director of Marketing for Magnificat High School.*



THE GOOD LIFE

The Etiquette Corner  
Being a Gentleman in 2014

By Colleen Harding

What do you do when you are trying to be a gentleman and the woman you are with does not appreciate your manners? What do you say if the lady insists on paying her portion of a bill or wants to open her own door? What do you do if a woman says, “I can do it myself”, when you attempt to pull out her chair? Obviously, you are not doing these things because you feel the woman is incapable of doing them herself. You may be trying to demonstrate that you are a gentleman and this is how you show respect.

There are many components to being a gentleman besides good choices and basic politeness. How we treat the opposite sex is quite different and undefined today. Many situations can present some confusion.

In business, you treat a woman as an equal. It is a very different situation. You shake hands and pick up tabs equally. It’s the social settings that bring the confusion.

Here is a good rule of thumb. If you are a man that is use to treating a woman like a lady, please continue. Please don’t assume that all women want to be treated like men socially. Many women enjoy and appreciate being treated like a lady. However, if you extend these courtesies and the person does not appreciate them, reply, “Ok, I understand”. It is never acceptable to be abrasive or confrontational in the etiquette world.

If a person indicates how they would like to be treated, respect their wishes. Part of being a gentleman or lady is recognizing how people want to be treated and accommodating them. It is a difficult situation to be in. In the absence of any “signals”, go with your gut feeling, but always respond respectfully. It is how you truly demonstrate the rules of protocol. •

Please submit your questions to Mrs. Harding through our website, click on Submit a new story and choose the category “Mrs. Harding”.

Cleveland School of Etiquette and Corporate Protocol



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County Executive from page 12

Clearly, a primary responsibility of the County Executive is job creation. The Executive is to be someone with leadership skills who has shown that he has been and can be an effective and focused job creator. The drafters of the Charter saw the role of the County Executive in job creation and retention as one of accountability for these functions.

The Economic Development and Planning Committee, of which I am chairman, works in conjunction with the County Executive in this area. According to the Charter, the County Executive’s primary responsibility could be thought of not only as the Chief Executive Officer of the County, but also as “the Chief

Employment Officer” responsible for “creating and retaining jobs.”

I have tried to use my experience as one of the new County Council members to write this article to bring some insight into our role and the role of the County Executive under our new Charter government. It is my hope that as Cuyahoga County citizens consider the second election of the County Executive and Council members, the information in this article will help clarify what these jobs are, and the many ways they affect every one of us. •

Jack Schron is President of Jergens, Inc. He is a member of the 6th District County Council.

Roasted Sweet Potato Tacos

By Alyssa Wiegand

This healthy, hearty fall dish is so filling that even the staunchest meat eater won’t notice that it’s vegetarian. Roasted spiced sweet potatoes, smoked cheddar, creamy avocado, crunchy pepitas and a sweet and spicy honey chipotle drizzle combine for a new take on tacos. Add black beans to stretch the meal for more people and to add protein.

**Roasted Sweet Potato Tacos**  
Makes 8 tacos, serves 4

**Ingredients**  
**For the roasted sweet potatoes:**  
1 large sweet potato, cut into 1/4 inch dice  
1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil (we love The Olive Scene’s Chipotle Olive Oil in this dish!)  
1 teaspoon dried cumin  
1/2 teaspoon dried coriander  
salt and pepper to taste



**For the sweet and spicy drizzle:**  
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice  
2 tablespoons honey or agave nectar  
1/2 teaspoon dried chipotle chili or 1 teaspoon of The Olive Scene’s Chipotle Olive Oil, more if you prefer a spicier dish  
salt to taste

**For serving:**  
8 taco-sized tortillas (flour or corn)  
1/2 cup grated smoked cheddar cheese  
1 avocado, cut into a 1/4 inch dice  
1/4 cup roasted, salted pepitas (pumpkin seeds)  
4 chopped scallions, white and light green parts only  
3 tablespoons chopped cilantro  
optional: 1/2 cup cooked black beans, sour cream, lime wedges

**Preparation**  
Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Toss the sweet potatoes on a rimmed baking sheet with the oil, cumin and coriander. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Roast for about 20-25 minutes, stirring the potatoes every 5 minutes, until cooked through. Adjust seasonings.

While the potatoes are roasting, combine the lime juice, honey and chipotle in a small bowl. Season with salt to taste and adjust the amount of chipotle to your desired spice level.

Serve by layering sweet potatoes, smoked cheddar and avocado (and beans, if using) on the tortillas, dividing among the plates. Drizzle each taco with 1/2 tablespoon of the chipotle sauce. Top with pepitas, scallions and cilantro (and sour cream, if using). Pass additional chipotle sauce (and lime wedges, if using) at the table.

This recipe is brought to you by the The Olive Scene in Rocky River. Stop in or visit the store at [www.theolivescene.com](http://www.theolivescene.com).



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ROCKY RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY • CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**October 2 at 7:00 p.m.** The Chef's Secrets series presents **Scrumptious Salads** with **Karen Small**, the chef/owner of Flying Fig. Small has embraced the farm-to-table movement for the past 15 years at her Silver Spoon award-winning restaurant for Best Brunch by *Cleveland Magazine*. She'll be making her delicious roasted squash and lentil salad and her pickled beet salad. Scrumptious samples. Recipe handouts.



Chef Karen Small, owner of Flying Fig, presents "Scrumptious Salads" on Thursday, October 2.

**October 2 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.** Teens are invited to join us for **Candy Sushi**. Grab your friends and stop by the Library for a new **Teen Thursday Thing** event each month. Grades 7 and up.

**October 8 at 3:30 p.m.** **Teen Pizza Pag**ers meet for pizza and a book discussion group. Stop by the Reference Desk to register and pick up a copy of the current book. Grade 7 and 8. Registration required.

**October 9 at 7:00 p.m.** **Books Uncovered: Finding Money in Your Old Books** will be presented by **Michael Zubal**. Join us as we participate in Octavofest (a celebration of the book and paper arts) with this special presentation. Zubal has spent his entire life in the scholarly and antiquarian book business, and he shares his knowledge in an engaging talk followed by book evaluations. Patrons are invited to bring up to three books for free evaluations.

**October 11 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Be a part of the **Guild of the Brick** for ages 5 and older. Are you crazy about Legos®? Then drop in. We provide the Legos®, you bring the imagination.

**October 13 at 6:30 p.m.** Join us for "Grigris" as we continue our **Indie International Film Fest**, featuring selections from the world's top film festivals. This 2013 French drama is about 25-year-old Grigris, who despite a paralyzed leg, dreams of being a dancer. Enjoy fresh, hot popcorn while celebrating the world of cinema.

**October 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** Dig into **Locating History-Digital Archeology**. You will be amazed by what modern archaeologists use to find and record discoveries, safeguarding our history for future generations.

**October 15 from 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Join us for the **High School Book Club** with snacks and lively conversations. Stop by the Reference Desk to register and pick up a copy of the current book. Grades 9 and up. Registration required.

**October 15 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Read "Where'd You Go Bernadette" by Maria Semple in anticipation of our next **Books Inspire the Artist Within** discussion and creative program for adults. Craft materials will be provided for the creation of your very own travel blocks! No previous art experience required. All are welcome to discuss the book.

**October 16 at 7:00 p.m.** Enjoy the Library's **On Stage in River** performing arts series featuring "Mojo: The Generations Big Band" at Rocky River Senior Center, 21014 Hilliard Boulevard. Experience the excitement of a live performance when 18 members of the Band performing. Consisting of Cleveland's seasoned veterans and their

fiery understudies, the Band is a unique musical force in the Midwest. Enjoy such favorites as Benny Goodman's "Sing, Sing, Sing," Count Basie's "April in Paris," Duke Ellington's "Rockin' in Rhythm" and many more. Free admission. No registration. Limited seating—come early.

**October 18 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Brush up on your SAT test-taking skills with a Princeton Review® test prep and strategy session. **SAT Prep Class** will be followed by the **SAT Practice Test** on Saturday, **October 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Registration required for each event.

**October 20 at 3:30 p.m.** Drop in for **Movie Monday** for students in grades 3-6. See a hit movie after school and enjoy free popcorn and drinks. We'll feature newly released DVDs, along with everyone's favorite classics.

**October 22 at 10:00 a.m.** **Senior Scams** reviews the latest scams targeting senior adults, who experience 30% of reported fraud. Find out how to protect yourself and your loved ones. Bob Davis, a representative from the Ohio Attorney General's Office, will alert you to scams that affect seniors.

**October 23 at 7:00 p.m.** **Chef's Secrets** presents "Mouth-watering Moussaka" with Taki, chef/owner of Taki's Greek Kitchen. Find out what makes his restaurant so special and why it won Cleveland Magazine's Silver Spoon award for "Best Greek Restaurant." Once this skillful chef teaches you how to make this Greek favorite, you'll be serving it at every opportunity. Enjoy flavorful samples. Leave with recipe handouts.

**October 27 at 6:30 p.m.** The 8th annual **Cowan Classic Film Festival** continues with "A Free Soul," a 1931 classic starring

Norma Shearer, Leslie Howard and Lionel Barrymore. Free hot popcorn!

**October 28 from 6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.** Play **Dungeons & Dragons**. Locations vary, so call for details. Join us for this classic fantasy role playing game with other teens. Learn how to create a character and embark on fantastic adventures. There is plenty of room for extra Dungeon Masters, too! Grades 7 and up. Registration required.

**October 28 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** Drop in for **Presentations that Pop with Prezi**. Prezi is a little-known software tool that allows you to bring your presentation slides to life. Learn how to present with a tool that animates and zooms into your concepts, matching or enhancing your lively lecture.

**October 29 from 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Drop in for **Get in the Game!** for students in grades 3-6. Meet at the library to hang out with your friends, play games and munch on snacks. Different games are featured each month, including Wii Just Dance, PlayStation Rock Band, party games and board games.

**October 31 at 12:00 p.m.** Enjoy **Lunch and a Movie**. Bring your bag lunch and see "The Grand Seduction," starring Taylor Kitsch, Brendan Gleeson and Liane Balaban. We'll provide the hot popcorn and refreshments. Adults of all ages welcome.

For additional information, call the **Rocky River Public Library at 440-333-7610** or visit [www.rrpl.org](http://www.rrpl.org).



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7 Ernie Krivda & the Fat Tuesday Big Band - 7:30 pm  
10 School Girl Crush - 9 pm  
14 Dan Zola Big Band - 7:30 pm

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